1	2	3
D & N Haveli	60.00	Nil
Daman & Diu	70.00	Nil
Delhi	70.00	Nil
Lakhsdweep	60.00	Nil
Pondicherry	60.00	Nil
TOTAL	6180.00	1020.00

A total of Rs. 161.4 lakhs as third & fourth instalments were not drawn by A & NI (Rs. 35.40 Lakhs), D&D (Rs. 35.40 lakhs), D&NH (Rs. 30.20 lakhs), Lakshdweep (Rs. 30.20 lakhs) & Chandigarh (Rs. 30.20)

BPL and APL card holders in Madhya Pradesh

†604. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of card holders living below as well as above poverty line in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether all sections are not adequately benefited due to high price of foodgrains distributed under this system; and

(c) if so, whether Government are considering to introduce a universal public distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) State Government of Madhya Pradesh has issued 60.97 lakh BPL (including 13.27 lakh AAY) cards and 114.58 lakh APL cards.

(b) No, sir. All sections are benefited under the targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The Central Issue Price (CIP) for Rice and Wheat for different categories is given in table below. The CIP have not been revised since 1.7.2002. The Economic cost of foodgrains is Rs. 1286 per quintal for Rice and Rs. 983 per quintal for wheat. So there is a subsidy element for all categories of card holders.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rs. per quintal)

CIP	APL	BPL	AAY
Rice	830	565	300
Wheat	610	415	200

(c) Does not arise.

Sugar prices

605. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar prices were growing up since last one year due to shortage of sugar production;

(b) if so, Government's reaction there to and the steps taken or proposed to be taken for stabilizing the sugar prices;

(c) whether Government have exported sugar to other countries, particularly Pakistan despite its shortage; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The production of cane sugar in the sugar year (October - September) 2004-05 was 130 lakh M.Ts as against the estimated production of 182 lakh M.Ts in the current sugar year 2005-06. The average retail price of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during the calendar year 2004 was in the range of Rs. 13.25 - 19.00 per Kg. whereas in the year 2005 it has been in the range of Rs. 17.50 - 20.50 per Kg.

(b) To pre-empt unreasonable hike in sugar prices on account unhealthy speculative tendency, if any, and creation of artificial shortage by holding back the released mandatory free sale sugar quota by unscrupulous sugar mills, the Government have, *inter-alia*, decided to take the following steps to stabilize the prices:

(i) Mandatory sale of free sale quota released for a particular month within the stipulated period,